



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY
P.O. BOX 1321
DOVER, DELAWARE 19903-1321
302-672-7642
www.ohs.delaware.gov

NEWS RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 16, 2008

CONTACT: Andrea Summers
Community Relations Officer
302- 672 -7642

**OHS Asking Drivers to Be Cautious on Roadways After 3 Killed in 24
Hour Period in Traffic Crashes**
Speed and alcohol are suspected as causes

Dover – Delaware Office of Highway Safety (OHS) officials are asking all drivers to be cautious while traveling on area roadways after three people lost their lives in traffic crashes which occurred less than 24 hours apart. The first involved a pedestrian killed while crossing Route 2 in New Castle County Monday evening. Delaware State Police investigators say the pedestrian was under the influence of both drugs and alcohol. The second collision occurred Tuesday morning west of Blades and resulted in the death of two teenage males. State Police investigators believe speeding and the wet roadway were contributing factors in that crash.

“This holiday season has already turned tragic for the families of these three victims. We don’t want anymore families to experience a similar loss. So we’re asking all drivers to re-focus all their attention on driving, never drive or walk under the influence of drugs or alcohol, and always buckle up,” said Andrea Summers Community Relations Officer for OHS.

Summers adds that drivers should constantly be aware of changing weather conditions, particularly in rainy or snowy conditions, and adjust their driving accordingly in terms of speed and following distance. Forecasts for Tuesday evening predict continuing rain in Kent and Sussex Counties but contain the possibility of snow or sleet for New Castle County.

Since January 1st, 118 people have been killed in Delaware traffic crashes. Forty-two (or 36%) of the traffic deaths are alcohol-related. Fifty-two percent of the fatal crashes have involved acts of aggressive driving, with speed being the most often reported factor.